

Appl. No. 09/650,258  
Amdt. dated May 27, 2004  
Amendment accompanying RCE

In the Claims:

Claim 1 is amended herein. Claims 10-12 are canceled. New claims 13 and 14 are added. The remaining claims are not amended in this response.

1. (currently amended) A game apparatus comprising:  
movement processing unit for moving a character  
corresponding to a player along a predetermined course set in a  
three-dimensional game space;  
viewpoint setting unit for setting a plurality of viewpoints  
in the field of view in which said character is included,  
corresponding to the course; and  
image preparing unit for selectively preparing two-  
dimensional images corresponding to said plurality of viewpoints  
set by said viewpoint setting unit, at the time of moving the  
character along the course.

2. (original) The game apparatus according to claim 1,  
further comprising image data storing unit for storing image data  
necessary for said image preparing unit for preparing two-  
dimensional images corresponding to said plurality of viewpoints,  
wherein said image preparing unit selectively prepares said  
two-dimensional image corresponding to one of said plurality of  
viewpoints.

Appl. No. 09/650,258  
Amdt. dated May 27, 2004  
Amendment accompanying RCE

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3. (original) The game apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising viewpoint switching unit for switching said viewpoints set by said viewpoint setting unit,

wherein a scene change is performed by discretely switching the content of said two-dimensional image prepared by said image preparing unit.

4. (original) The game apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising branch deciding unit for deciding a story branch generated when the movement processing unit moves said character,

wherein said viewpoint switching unit switches said viewpoint when said branch deciding unit detects said story branch.

5. (original) The game apparatus according to claim 1, wherein different three-dimensional objects are placed in said three-dimensional game space and included within the field of view corresponding to said plurality of viewpoints.

6. (original) The game apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising game directing unit for generating different events in accordance with said plurality of viewpoints while said movement processing unit is moving said character.

Appl. No. 09/650,258  
Amdt. dated May 27, 2004  
Amendment accompanying RCE

7. The game apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said game directing unit changes the level of difficulty of said events corresponding to said plurality of viewpoints.

8. A game image preparation method, comprising:

a first step of moving a character corresponding to a player along a predetermined course set in a three-dimensional game space;

a second step of setting a plurality of viewpoints in the field of view in which said character is included when said character moves in said first step; and

a third step of preparing two-dimensional images corresponding to said plurality of viewpoints set in said second step when said character moves in said first step.

9. An information storage medium, comprising:

a program for moving a character corresponding to a player in a predetermined course set in a three-dimensional game space and setting a plurality of viewpoints in the field of view in which said character is included; and

a program for preparing two-dimensional images corresponding to said plurality of viewpoints.

10-12. (canceled)

Appl. No. 09/650,258  
Amdt. dated May 27, 2004  
Amendment accompanying RCE

13. (new) The game apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said movement processing unit moves repeatedly the character along one of the course,

wherein said image preparing unit generates the plurality of the two-dimensional images including different contents corresponding to said plurality of viewpoints set by the viewpoint setting unit.

14. (new) The game apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said image preparing unit generates the plurality of the two-dimensional images including different contents with corresponding the common three-dimensional game space to each of the plurality of the viewpoints.